

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, UR

SUBJECT: ROMANIANS SLIGHTLY COOLER TOWARD SOVIET ANNIVERSARY

1. POSSIBLY ANTICIPATING TUSSLES WITH SOVIETS ON SCHEDULED EUROPEAN CP MEETINGS AND OTHER FRONTS, GOR HANDLING OF 57TH GREAT OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY TRIED FURTHER TO EXCISE ASPECTS OF SOVIET-PROMOTED MULTILATERALISM AND INTEGRATION WHILE KEEPING PROTOCOL APPEARANCES NEAR SAME LEVEL OF CORDIALITY AS LAST YEAR.

2. FOR EXAMPLE, CEAUSESCU-MANEA MANESCU CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM TO THE RULING SOVIET TRIUMVIRATE, ALTHOUGH BASICALLY THE SAME, OMMITED 1973 PHRASES "STRUGGLE FOR CAUSE OF SOCIALISM" (IN WORLD) AND "STRENGTHENING FORCE OF WORLD SOCIALIST SYSTEM", WHILE ADDING IN TWO PLACES INDEPENDENT-SOUNDING PRINCIPLE OF "EQUALITY AND RECIPROCAL RESPECT". ON COOLER NOTE, GONE ALSO WAS REFERENCE TO SOVIET-ROMANIAN BILATERAL FRIENDSHIP TREATY; PHRASE

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"DEAR COMRADES" WAS ALSO DROPPED. RESPECT FOR THE USSR AS A POWER-

FUL SIGNLE STATE, HOWEVER, WAS CONVEYED BY ADDITION OF REFERENCE TO ITS "EVER MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ARENA".

3. ROMANIAN LEADERSHIP ATTENDANCE AT SOVIET RECEPTION WAS QUITE RESPECTABLE BUT PERHAPS DOWN VERY MARGINALLY FROM LAST YEAR'S. ANNIVERSARY SPEECHES BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR DROZDENKO AND MINISTER OF LIGHT INDUSTRY CAZAN REVEALED, UNDERNEATH FLOWERY HOMILETICS, EXPECTED POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL CONTRASTS. DROZDENKO PLUGGED CEMA "INTEGRATION" AND "STRENGTHENING OF SOCIALIST COMMUNITY", CAZAN, ONLY "COOPERATION" WITH INDIVIDUAL CEMA MEMBERS. CAZAN OMITTED MENTION OF WARSAW PACT, DROZDENKO CALLED IT "RELIABLE, EFFICIENT INSTRUMENT" AND, UNLIKE CAZAN, STRESSED NEED FOR "PERMANENT VIGILANCE" AND "STRENGTHENED UNITY". DROZDENKO'S INCLUSION OF "TRANSFORMATION" OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS WAS PERHAPS POST-KISSINGER VISIT REMINDER TO GOR OF LIMITS OF SUPPORT IT CAN EXPECT FROM WASHINGTON'S DIRECTION. DROZDENKO FAILED TO MENTION CEAUSESCU WHILE CAZAN UNDERLINED USEFULNESS OF CEAUSESCU-BREZHNEV "MEETINGS AND TALKS".

4. SOVIET CULTURAL PRESENCE IN BUCHREST IN CONNECTION WITH ANNIVERSARY WAS BEEFED UP THIS YEAR AS COMPARED TO LAST, (INCLUDING MOISEEV DANCERS, TOSTONOGOV'S LENINGRAD "GORKY" THEATRE TROUPE AND FILM PREMIERE). ROMANIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF CULTURAL EVENTS WAS ALSO EXPANDED OVER 1973, FOLLOWING ROMANIAN TACTIC OF KEEPING UP ALL OUTWARD APPEARANCES WITH SOVIETS WHILE STICKING TO FUNDAMENTALS OF INDEPENDENT LINE.
BARNES

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